

THE STORY OF THE STAR * * * THAT NEVER MOVES

ONE of the attaches of the Naval Observatory the other evening took two of his own and three of his neighbor's children for a ride in his automobile. The jolly party went out toward Chevy Chase, and, being a clear night, the stars were out in all their glory. On one of the hills the astronomer stopped and began to look at the heavens.

"Oh! tell us about the stars," said a childish voice beside him.

The astronomer complied with the request and talked to the little group about the "North Star," which happened to be in full view.

"See that star up there," said he, pointing as he spoke. "It is the North Star, and it remains there always just where it is in the sky. It has never moved from its position since the world stood, that is to one looking at it from the earth."

"You can easily find the North Star, see the Big Dipper over there in the constellation of the Great Bear. The two stars on the side of the Dipper opposite the handle are called the pointers, because they are almost exactly in line with, or point to, the North Star. Do you see them, Annie?"

"Oh! yes, the three of them make a line," she said.

"The Indians," resumed the astronomer, "used to call the North Star 'Ti-yin-sou-da-go-err,' 'the star that never moves.' By the aid of it they were accustomed to find their way through the forests and over the prairies, and they tell a story of how they first came to know that the star was stationary and could be used as a guide:

"A large party of Indians wandered for many moons in search for game and found little, until at last they lost their way entirely and camped by the side of a river, exhausted with travel and half dead for want of food."

"It was decided to hold a council and see if they could not devise some way of returning to their old home. They burned tobacco as a sacrifice, and as the smoke of the plant curled up into the air, they danced and sang a weird chant, imploring the Great Spirit to send them a guide. While they danced there appeared to them a little girl, who said she had come to rescue the hunters from their predicament."

"So they broke camp and all that night they traveled, the little girl lead-

ing them, going on ahead with a small war club in her hand. At daybreak she told them to rest and sleep, while she would prepare food for them.

"They did as they were told, and when they awoke they found a great feast ready for them, and they wondered much where the child got the food as well as at the skillful way she had prepared it."

"After they had eaten, the little girl went away, but told them that at night-fall she would come to lead them on their way again. So, when the stars came out in the sky, the little girl came back, and after giving each of the hunters a magic drink out of a leather bottle which made them all feel strong again, she led them all that night as before."

"At daybreak the hunters found themselves on the edge of a large plain, where the little girl bade them rest for the day, all except a few of the most skillful hunters, whom she took away to a place where there was plenty of game, which they killed for the food of the party. Then she disappeared as before."

"But at night she returned with her own people, who were all little folks, not larger than small children, though some of them were very old."

"She told the hunters that they were now in the country of the pigmies, who would teach them a sign, already in the sky, by which they could always guide themselves when they went out hunting, and never get lost any more."

"Then the chief of the pigmies pointed out the Polar Star and said that, far in the north, where the sun never came, and all the other stars wander around, this particular star had its home and always stood still to be the Indians' guide in their wanderings."

"Follow its light," said the chief of the pigmies, "and you will come to your own land, where you will find plenty of game and where the corn is now ripe."

"So the hunters thanked the good pigmies and, traveling at night, guided by the Polar Star, they came to their own home, where they rested and feasted and told their people about the 'Ti-yin-sou-da-go-err'—the star that never moves."

The astronomer then turned on the steam and rode away, soon coming back to the city. The children were all thoughtful, and when they reached home went to bed to dream of the little girl who led the Indians out of the tangles of the forest."

NO CHANGE IN BRICKLAYING

IT is interesting to note that there has been almost no change in the methods of bricklaying since the children of Egypt wrought in the land of Egypt. Machinery and innovations of various sorts have completely changed the methods of several trades within a generation, but the knight of the trowel builds his wall with the same materials and almost in the same manner as in the days of Moses. There has been big improvements in brick making, but almost none in bricklaying. This trade for thousands of years has defied the inventor to devise a machine to do the work.

By the introduction of machinery the labors of the carpenter and the machinist, as well as of scores of other trades which could be mentioned, have been simplified to such an extent as to cause alarm among the great army of workmen who eke out a livelihood through those channels. Yet the bricklayer, so far, has had no cause to feel those disquieting features which long ago started the rumble of discontent among his brothers the world over. The progress of time and the great advance of civilization, with all its achievements in the way of applied mechanics, have left him severely alone, and today the bricklayer follows his calling in as primitive method, using the same tools, as did the artisans of ancient Babylon

in the construction of the famous Tower of Babel.

Numerous attempts have been made by inventors of the past and present to rub the bricklayer of his individuality by substituting machinery, but that these attempts were without success is fully verified by the presence of the man on the wall and his spasmodic cries of "mort." The simplicity of the trade has been the bricklayer's salvation. The piling of one brick on another, with a thin layer of mortar between, until the whole wall is complete, to the layman seems no difficult task, but it takes years of practice and close application to the work for the novice to become a skilled mechanic.

The failure of inventors to relegate the bricklayer of many centuries into oblivion is, for the most part, responsible for the healthy condition of the trade at the present time. This failure has enabled the bricklayer to assume an air of independence which is not so prominently apparent in other trades where the man's place can be easily filled by the machine. In labor troubles the bricklayer can always be seen taking the initiative, and he invariably experiences less difficulty in convincing the employer that his demands are within the bounds of equity and justice.

For these reasons the bricklayer commands a remuneration for his labors which is the envy of the followers of all other trades.

THE GREATEST CORPORATION

THE United States Steel Corporation is not only the greatest corporation in the world in point of capital, but also in the number of stockholders. All over this country, in Canada, in England and on the Continent holders of Steel stocks are to be found.

The common stock books have just closed for the usual quarterly dividend of 1 per cent, calling for \$5,000,000, and it has been found that since June 5,010 persons have bought the common stock. This makes a total of 36,397 common stockholders, and is an increase of sixty-seven new holders for each day of the three months, counting Sundays. There are 34,958 preferred shareholders, which makes a total of 69,955 registered, the largest number in the world. To this there should also be added the holdings of the 28,000 employees of the corporation who are enrolled under the profit-sharing plan, making a grand total of 97,955 shareholders.

Census statisticians allow five persons to a family in the United States. On this basis something like 250,000 persons derive income from Steel stocks. As the number of employees is approximately 100,000, some 500,000 more persons get from the great corporation a livelihood through the wages it pays. This makes 1,500,000, or one-eighth of the population of the United States who look to the Steel Corporation for a living.

To this number might well be added the shareholders and employees of many of the great railroads and transportation companies which handle the immense traffic of the company at Pittsburgh and elsewhere. Certainly much of the revenue of these companies is derived from the operations of the big corporation, and this means wages and dividends for hundreds of thousands more people.

The corporations which approach the

Steel Corporation in magnitude of stock lists are the Pennsylvania Railroad, with 35,000 shareholders; the Atchafalaya, Topeka and Santa Fe, with 18,000; the American Sugar Refining Company, with 15,000, and the Union Pacific Railroad, with 14,000 stockholders. The greatest of these, the Pennsylvania Railroad, has only half as many registered holders. In Canada the Grand Trunk Railway is said to have 40,000 shareholders.



BAD CASE.

Clarabel—He seems to be suffering from heart disease.
Lillian—Indeed?
Clarabel—He's been on the verge of proposing to me for months!

WASHINGTON MEMBERS OF THE NEW TELEGRAPHERS' UNION.



Here Are Twenty-Eight Prominent Local Knights of the Key Who Are Affiliated With the Commercial Telegraphers' Union of America. The Picture Was Taken Three Weeks Ago During a Session of the Washington Local.

ONE of the youngest labor organizations in the country is the Commercial Telegraphers' Union of America. It has a "local" in Washington, to which a majority of the first-class telegraphers of the city belong. The present body was formed March 16, 1903, by consolidating the International Union of Commercial Telegraphers and the Order of Commercial Telegraphers, which up to that time had maintained for several months independent organizations.

The inception of this union began in Washington, and it is due largely to the telegraphers employed here that the union has attained such headway in the brief term of its existence. Thousands of telegraphers in different parts of the country have joined since last March, and the body has today an influence unusual for an organization so young. The facts speak well for the principles upon which the union was founded.

History of the Organization.

One year ago thirteen of Washington's best telegraph operators, known as the "regulars," held several meetings in a broker's office in the Atlantic Building to elect a delegate to a general convention to be held in Chicago for the purpose of uniting the telegraphers of America for their common interest and protection. M. H. Weber, of the Washington bureau of the "New York Journal," was elected as delegate to represent the Washington operators. Mr. Weber went to Chicago, met delegates there from other cities, and after a stormy three-days' meeting helped to effect an organization then known as the International Union of Commercial Telegraphers. J. J. McDonald, of Chicago, was chosen president, and A. J. Douglass, of Milwaukee, secretary-treasurer.

An executive board was appointed, of which Mr. Weber was made chairman. A working constitution and by-laws were adopted, and Mr. Weber was instructed by the convention to obtain an international charter for the organization from the American Federation of Labor. When the application for the charter was made Samuel Gompers, president of the Federation of Labor, called to Washington L. W. Quick, of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers, and a conference was held. This order at that time had quite a following of commercial operators, the lodge being known as the Order of Commercial Telegraphers.

Messrs. Quick, Weber and Gompers talked over the situation for some time and called a convention to be held in Pittsburgh in the month of November. Officers of the I. U. C. T. represented by Mr. Weber refused to go to Pittsburgh

on the plea that he had exceeded his authority in consenting to the call for the convention. Washington "local," however, stood by its delegate, and withdrew from the I. U. C. T., as did several other lodges of the same union. Accordingly, the convention was held in Pittsburgh, but the new organization was not represented by its officers.

A new body was formed in Pittsburgh, Percy Thomas, of New York, being elected president, and J. M. Perkins, of St. Louis, secretary, with an executive board, of which Mr. Weber was made chairman. Matters remained in this condition until last March when a committee composed of members of both organizations met in Washington, talked the situation over and came to an agreement upon mooted points. A common ground was found upon which all could meet. For the time being J. J. McDonald and Percy Thompson were recognized as associate presidents; Wilbur Eastlake was elected secretary-treasurer, and A. J. Douglass, editor of the order's official organ, known as the "Journal," and printed in Milwaukee. The committee in Washington selected July 15, the twentieth anniversary of the strike of the commercial operators in the 80's, as the date of a convention to be held in New York. M. H. Weber and C. H. Daily were delegates from the Washington "local."

The New York Convention.

The convention which met in New York contained as intelligent a set of men as ever convened to shape the affairs of a labor organization. It was perhaps for this reason that the questions which had involved the order were debated at great length before conclusions were reached. The work now recognized as the best ever accomplished by any similar body of men. The constitution adopted is a conservative document, and the laws which are to govern the union are of a character to make it one of the most efficient and influential bodies of the kind in existence. At the New York convention A. J. Long was elected president of the reorganized body, Wilbur Eastlake, secretary-treasurer, and A. J. Douglass, editor of the official organ.

Since the meeting in New York the union has made enormous strides in membership. It has 1,000 in Chicago, 800 in New York, about 100 in Washington, and similar representations in other cities. In all the larger cities the union has a majority of the operators working in commercial lines.

The main effort of the union is to place its members in the best positions where it has a "local." It claims to be able to do this, because it only takes the best men into its membership, and those who are in full sympathy with the work of the union. Its members strive for excellence in the telegraph profession, and have an intelligent appreciation of the fact that in commercial positions good operators are needed. Members, who for any reason may be discharged in one place, are looked after and given positions in another. It is a part of the policy of the union to interest business men in the members and prove to them that the best opera-

tors are to be found only in its ranks. This policy works, of course, both ways, in getting the best men into the union, and in getting them into the best positions, where they remain.

No Resort to Strikes.

One of the principles of the union is that no strike shall be called. The policy is to deal with one thing at a time, and one case at a time, if need be, and to accomplish through other means what the union wants. For example, if members are in a position where unreasonable things are required of them, either in regard to working hours or wages, the union would seek redress by peaceful means rather than to resort to a strike. In case of opposition in any quarter the union operates in a quiet, but effective way. A broker may be opposed to employing union labor with union restrictions. He loses business or rather the broker who does employ the union man increases his business. Said a prominent member:

"In one instance three men were discharged without warning, because they had joined the union. The officers of the union at that point went to a firm carrying on a similar business and proposed that the men should be taken on and promised a sufficient increase in business to warrant it. The union kept its part of the contract, and the company which engaged the men was more than satisfied. By means like this, some times in one way, and sometimes in another, the union carries its points; it does not fight with the strike and boycott, but with weapons quite as effective. It is possible that the present constitution may be changed at some future convention, but it is thought the policy of the union under the conservative policy, which it has followed will serve to continue it for years to come."

The Washington "Local."

Each "local," like the national organization, is governed by a staff of officers and an executive board. The officers of the Washington local are E. A. Headley, of the White House telegraph staff, president; R. J. Prender, of the Treasury Department, secretary-treasurer; W. J. McIntee, of the Postal, vice president, and E. J. Beall, of the Postal, sergeant-at-arms. The executive board is made up of H. L. Wilson, chairman; W. Russell, Henry Dolan, C. D. Evans, Martin Kane, L. W. Carter, and Frank H. Lantz.

The Washington local holds its meetings at the Typographical Temple. It meets twice each month to consider matters relating to the local body. The meetings are largely attended and great interest is taken by the members in the objects of the organization. The member is bound by a pledge to abide by and conform with the laws, rules, regulations, mandates and edicts of the order.

Washington telegraphers who have talked with The Times reporter about the affairs of the union are of the opinion that the telegraphers of the Capital will be much benefited by affiliation with the union. Through the organization they stand together and can work with the combined force of the membership for the accomplishment of any given purpose. Moreover, it is thought that if for any reason a member loses his position, he will be cared for by the union until he is placed in another one. All the advantages of organization are found in this union with an escape under the present constitution and laws from many of its disadvantages.

* * * THE OLD AND NEW WOMAN * *

"I REALIZE most keenly this is the age of the new woman when I hear my granddaughters discussing their plans for the future," said a Washington grand dame of seventy-three. "One of them says she is going to be a trained nurse, and another declares she is going to be a cooking school teacher. Really, it is strange to hear little girls talking that way. I heard none of it when I was young. We thought it almost a disgrace for a woman to be obliged to work for money. If we thought of the future at all, it was simply with marriage in view. I remember I thought that if I were not married by the time I was eighteen or twenty I should be made a laughing stock by the rest of the girls. 'Now you find a majority of the girls planning a future of independent work. A few, a very few, cling to the idea that they would like to be educated in a fashionable boarding school and become fine ladies, with nothing to do but

flit from one pleasure to another and play at charity. But the majority of little school girls are sensible lassies, looking forward with a healthy interest to a future where they will take an active part in the world. 'Of course, they do not all become what they expect to be in their school days. The girl who at ten wishes to be a trained nurse at twenty may become a stenographer, and the cooking school aspirant may turn out to be an actress. But I like to hear their eager school girl plans, for it denotes a determination to be part of the busy world, a desire to share in its responsibilities and get its rewards, and a wish to live a broad, complete, independent life. Of course, I am supposed to say that the old days were best, but, frankly, I believe this new era is far better than the old, when heaus and marriage were all that occupied the thoughts of girls. I only wish I had been born in the century of the 'new woman.'

E * * * EVANGELIST MOODY'S * * * BIBLE IN THIS CITY

CHARLES ELMER FURMAN, known as the "artist evangelist," who is in the city, is the possessor of the Bible used by Dwight L. Moody in his evangelistic services for many years. Mr. Furman held a series of night meetings at the Central Union Mission, and in one of them made a reference to the Bible, which he said had been round the world.

The passing of the book from the possession of Mr. Moody to that of Mr. Furman is curiously interesting, and within the book in writing and by other proofs is the evidence of the truth of the story.

On the flyleaf of the Bible is the inscription: "To Martin L. Hollenbeck, From His Friend, D. L. Moody." This is written in Mr. Moody's handwriting, as is shown by numerous annotations throughout the book in the same writing.

Mr. Hollenbeck was an evangelist, and one night in March, 1880, was sitting on the platform in St. Louis, while Mr. Moody was preaching to a large audience on the subject of "Faith."

Holding his Bible in his hand, Mr. Moody turned to Mr. Hollenbeck, and said:

"Brother, if I should say I would give you this book, you would believe it, would you not?"

Mr. Hollenbeck replied in the affirmative, and Mr. Moody continued:

"Then you would be exercising faith in my promise."

Mr. Moody then went on to develop his subject, showing that the promises contained in the Bible were as sure as his own statement would be to Mr. Hollenbeck, and to clinch the argument, he turned and said:

"Brother, I give you the book, as Christ will surely give peace and joy in the world to come to the sinner who believes."

Mr. Moody afterward asked Mr. Hollenbeck to give back his Bible, as the gift was made up of as an illustration, but Mr. Hollenbeck held the preacher to his gift, and the latter inscribed his name as it appears today on the flyleaf.

Goes on a Long Journey.

A few months later Mr. Moody and Mr. Hollenbeck parted company, and the latter went on a preaching tour to the Sandwich Islands, to China, India, to Turkey, to London, and back to Chicago. The book had entirely encircled the globe in the hands of Mr. Hollenbeck.

In 1890, the Chicago evangelist died, and his effects were sold. The Moody Bible, with a number of papers, was placed in an old barrel, bought by a Chicago junk dealer, and shipped to New York. When opened and sorted in the rag shop of John C. Stockwell, 25 Ann Street, New York, the Bible was picked out of the rubbish by a young man, and taken to Mr. Stockwell as something of value. Mr. Stockwell was at the time



CHARLES ELMER FURMAN, Evangelist.

Interested in the work of the "artist evangelist," Mr. Furman, and gave him the book, which Mr. Furman now regards as almost a priceless possession.

On January 8, 1900, when the Moody memorial service was held in Carnegie Hall, New York, Mr. Furman took the old Bible with him to the meeting. It happened that Dr. Pierson, who presided, forgot to bring a Bible, and an inquiry being made for one, Mr. Furman offered his, and from the Bible which Mr. Moody so dramatically gave away in St. Louis twenty years before was read the Scripture lesson.

Worth More Than \$1,000.

Mr. Furman has received an offer of \$1,000 for the book from an admirer of Mr. Moody in Boston, but refuses to part with it.

The book is a Bagster edition and was published in London in the seventies. It is old and worn, and some of the leaves were made thin by Mr. Moody before it passed out of his hands. Mr. Moody's favorite text on which to preach was John, III:16: "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." These words appear on page 65 of the New Testament. This page is interlined, the margin is written full of notes, and from long use the leaf is almost ready to fall to pieces. The opposite page, near the margin, was actually worn away by Mr. Moody's thumb, and the 13th and 14th verses of the first chapter are practically gone.

The book contains on the fly leaves the names of Ira D. Sankey, George C. Needham, of Chicago, and numerous other people of less note. The book shows that Mr. Moody's texts were nearly all from the New Testament and the greater part of them from the four Gospels. Every page bears some mark of the great preacher, and when it passed from his hands, one can well believe that he parted with one of his best and most useful possessions.

* * * WHY THE SKY SEEMS BLUE * *

EVERYONE notices the blue color of the sky. It has grown familiar to all by daily observation from childhood, yet few persons realize the great scientific and artistic interest attaching to this beautiful color.

Sir Isaac Newton tried to explain the color in the year 1675 by referring it to the blue colors seen in the soap bubbles used in his experiments. He thought the air was filled with small particles of water which reflect the blue portions of the sun's light falling upon our earth and thus produce the blue tints of the firmament.

Sir John Herschel explained the color of the sky by Newton's theory, but later writers have proved that in some important respects his theory was wrong.

What Tyndall Discovered.

In 1869 Prof. John Tyndall, the famous British physicist, found that he could produce "sky blue" by experiments in the laboratory. For this purpose he filled a glass tube about a yard long and three inches in diameter, with air of one-tenth the ordinary density mixed with nitrite of butyl vapor, which is extremely volatile. Then, on passing through the mixture a powerful beam of electric light in a room otherwise dark, the mixture precipitated a beautiful blue cloud which in color rivaled the finest Italian sky. Further experiments proved to Tyndall that he had at last discovered the secret of the blue color of the sky which had puzzled the greatest philosophers of all ages.

Lord Rayleigh, the famous professor of experimental physics at Cambridge, England, and one of King Edward's original twelve members of the new Order of Merit, has investigated Tyndall's theory of the color of the sky by profound mathematical researches extending over many years. He confirms Tyndall's theory that the blue arises from the reflection of sunlight from small particles in

the air less than 1-100,000 of an inch in diameter.

These atomic particles fill the atmosphere, and by reflecting the blue part of the sun's light, give the dome of the heavens a bluish tint.

Some of these particles are water, but most of them are composed of the oxygen and nitrogen of the air.

Prof. T. J. See is one of the American scientists who has studied the subject in another aspect. He has observed the color of the sky in various altitudes, in high mountains and in dry and moist countries such as Egypt and Greece, and Arizona and the Mississippi Valley. His conclusion is that the beautiful red colors of sunsets and sunrises so much spoken of by Greek and Roman writers and so often illustrated in landscape painting, arise from water vapor in the lower regions of the atmosphere, absorbing the blue and transmitting the red light. According to Dr. See, the reddish colors come from that part of our air within five miles of the earth's surface, while the deep blue of the sky arises from reflections of minute particles in the higher parts of our atmosphere.

High water vapor does not extend very high, clouds never rising higher than ten miles above the earth. The blue streaks cast by clouds at sunset show that the red arises near the earth, while the blue has its seat very high up. Above the atmosphere the sky has all the blackness of the darkest night.

Duration of Sunset Colors.

Prof. See has watched the duration of the blue sky after dark, and found it to continue for about an hour and fifteen minutes, and from this he shows that the atmosphere extends to a height of fully 130 miles. Astronomers have usually found the height of the atmosphere by computing the height of meteors, but none ever made the height of the atmosphere over 100 miles. The study of the blue color of the sky thus proves also that our atmosphere extends considerably higher than scientists have heretofore supposed.



Visitor—The grass on your lawn is awfully long.
His Host—Yes, I know, and I'm going to cut it as soon as the neighbors finish with my lawn mower.